



## BOARD OF PARKS AND RECREATION

August 16, 2010

5:30 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room  
2 Civic Center Plaza, El Paso, TX

### MINUTES

Members Present: 4

David Turner, James Tolbert, Janet Selzer, Carlos Bombach

Members Absent: 3

Ralph Cloud, Brian Wickstrom, Jennifer Barr-Ardovino

Member Vacancies: 2

Staff Present: Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, Joel McKnight, Assistant Director, Judy Weiss, Assistant Director, Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

1. Agenda Item #1. Meeting Called to Order

David Turner, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.

2. Agenda Item #2. Approval of Minutes: June 21, 2010

Motion by Carlos Bombach to approve the minutes as written. Second by Janet Seltzer. Motion carried (unanimous).

3. Agenda Item #3. Call to the Public (for items not on the agenda)

None

4. Agenda Item #4. Parks and Recreation Calendar and Newsletter

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, highlighted the calendar and newsletter included in the agenda packet. She informed the Board that the "After School Program" is in the process of registration and the Dog Day Swimming event will be September 11 and 12, 2010.

5. Agenda Item #5. Discussion and Presentation: Activenet Demonstration

Assistant Director Judy Weiss presented the automated recreation management system "Activenet" which was launched on May 17, 2010. The Board viewed a nine minute Public Service Announcement created for Channel 15 that demonstrates the program.

6. Agenda Item #6. Discussion and Information: Park Graffiti/Vandalism/Security

Assistant Director Joel McKnight reported that in a period of twelve months, staff responded to approximately 800 incidents. These incidents included tagging, broken windows and playground

vandalism. Future work order systems software will be implemented to assist tracking maintenance work orders. The Department also works with other graffiti task forces within the city (Police Department, Park Partnerships, Street Department Graffiti Removal).

Judy Weiss, Assistant Director, informed the Board of upgraded CCTV systems to assist staff with surveillance and monitoring facilities.

7. Agenda Item #7. Discussion and Information: Welden Yerby Senior Citizens Garden

Joel McKnight, Assistant Director, presented background information on the Welden Yerby Senior Citizens Garden. The area is currently approximately 1 ½ acres located in Northeast El Paso. There are 95 plots that are managed by volunteers. It is City owned, but not necessarily dedicated as “park” land. Parks and Recreation assists with minimal maintenance.

8. Agenda Item #8. Discussion and Information: Update on the Blue Ribbon Committee on a Regional Park Authority

Carlos Bombach, Blue Ribbon Committee Chair, reported that the committee is going to recommend to City Council to form a Regional Park Authority. The Regional Park Authority jurisdiction would include Ascarate and the County Sports Park. A funding mechanism through legislative process would need to be authorized.

9. Agenda Item #9. Discussion and Action: Selection of Site for “Excellence in Park Design by Private Developers” Award.

Nanette Smejkal, Parks and Recreation Director, presented the Board with three park designs constructed by private developers. The Board viewed the candidates; Mesquite Trail Offsite (Eastside), Redstone Village (Northeast) and Lomas del Sol (Westside). Discussion ensued.

Motion by James Tolbert to select Redstone Village as the FY10 “Excellence in Park Design” recognition award. Second by Carlos Bombach. Motion carried (unanimous).

10. Agenda Item #10. Subcommittee Reports:

- a. Tree Subcommittee – Discussion and action on a recommendation that no changes are currently needed for the Tree and Plant List.

James Tolbert reiterated the subcommittee’s discussion and action with no changes at this time to the original Tree and Plant List.

11. Agenda Item #11. Discussion and Action: Subcommittee Assignments (as needed)

Motion by James Tolbert to appoint David Turner and Carlos Bombach to the Grievance Subcommittee with James Tolbert as an alternate. Second by Janet Selzer. Motion carried (unanimous).

12. Agenda Item #12. Discussion: Identify Items for Future Agendas

- a. Vice Chair Appointment
- b. Report on FY11 Budget & Restructuring

13. Agenda Item #13. Adjournment - 6:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Maggie Binkley, Administrative Assistant